

Program: November 19, 2020
Dwight Leeper - Rotary Foundation
Classification Talk

Program: December 3, 2020
Kate Martin
The Garage Youth Center in Kennett Square

MINUTES by Brian Fahey

President Michelle Venema called the meeting to order at 12:05. She announced that we were being joined by our District Governor, Kevin Katarynick and our Assistant District Governor, Cynthia Rugart. The invocation was given by **Sue Casso Rogers**.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests: There were no visiting Rotarians and one guest, Don Neimetz, the Executive Director of North Star of Chester County.

Birthdays: **Glenn Sweet** wished happy birthday to **Kyle Rheiner** and **Chuck Garfinkle**.

Happy Bucks: **President Michelle** gave a Happy Buck to recognize our ability to now use Zoom instead of Microsoft Teams to host our meetings. **Mark Sammarone** gave a Happy Buck because the Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce will once again hang greens in town this holiday season. Check the Chamber's website if you are interested in participating. The greens will be hung on Saturday and Sunday, November 21st and 22nd. **Carol Hanson** gave three Happy Bucks, 1 in order to welcome our District Governor and Assistant District Governor; 1 to welcome our new members; 1 to recognize all of those who purchased End Polio Now Tulips.

Announcements:
 The next board meeting will be Wednesday, November 11th, 7:30 PM via Zoom. If you want to attend please email **President Michelle**.

President Michelle thanked **Sue Casso Rogers** for putting together the newsletter, "News You Can Use".

On Tuesday, November 10th, there will be an Up On The Roof event on the roof of the Chestnut St. Garage, from 3:30-5:30. Masks will be worn, social distancing will be observed. Bring your own food and beverage, and a chair if you wish.

Excerpts from President Michelle's History Report

On July 3rd, 1941, The Rotary Club of West Chester kicked off its 20th year. Newly elected President **Deweese Mosteller** presided over a membership of 73 that included 6 charter members. Dues for the year were \$25. During the first six months of that year, we would add 5 new members including **Dr. Elwood Spellman** who would go on to be the pillar of the West Chester education community as well as a District Governor.

The final meeting of the calendar year was held on December 4th, as the world changed 3 days later when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Meetings were suspended for a few weeks and resumed in early 1942. In February Rotary International issued a statement that the Rotary Ideals can "only be achieved in in countries where there is liberty of the individual, in freedom of thought, speech and assembly, freedom of worship, freedom from persecution and aggression, and freedom from want and fear. Where this liberty does not exist, Rotary cannot live." Rotary International then revoked the charters of those clubs operating in countries controlled by the Axis powers.

– **Bill Friedmann**, Club Historian

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Pat Barron

Zoom Visit by District Governor Kevin Katarynick
 Also on the Zoom: Assistant DG Cynthia Rugart

DG Kevin introduced himself and his Rotarian venture. Kevin is a dispatcher for the Upper Merion Police and President of the King of Prussia Fire Company. He joined Rotary in 2012, (only eight years ago!), and quickly rose to become president of his club in K of P. His club was so impressed with Kevin's performance (Kevin did not say this, of course) that the members convinced him to throw his hat into the ring to become DG. To his surprise the selection committee chose him! Having met him via Zoom, I'm

not surprised at all. All I can say is "What a great guy!"

As a police dispatcher, Kevin values good communications, clear and concise, in everything he does. Kevin also values our time, so, if he sends an email to us, it will be important and to the point. Kevin has chosen a motto for our district this year--Get your ducks in a line--that reflects his work ethic and the importance of attention to detail. From his fire house background, Kevin knows the importance of hard work, and united action. Kevin's wife, a military retiree, often heard the phrase in her military career. They collect and distribute rubber ducks as mementoes for themselves and as gifts for special occasions. But the rubber ducks--often decorated with appropriate themes, such as bride and groom--have become more than cute gifts. They are a reminder of a way of life. So, Rotarians, let's get our ducks in line!

After his personal introduction, Kevin got down to business. First he inducted three new members into our club. Mike Larimer is a commercial relationship manager with Victory Bank. Jill Stoltzfus is a career readiness coordinator with the West Chester School District's intermediate unit. Tara Webber is employed by Chester County Family Academy. After the formal induction, Kevin advised the new Rotarians to become an effective force in the local community, learn about Rotary, attend meetings regularly, and in all things remember the Four Way Test. Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Next, Kevin discussed his goals for the district this year. They are:

1. Reverse declining membership. It really is no one's fault...just reality. But let's do our best to stop the decline. Kevin would like to start five new clubs, maybe online or some other non-traditional meeting method, and have a net gain of seventy-five members by June 30 of next year.
2. Encourage Rotary Direct for increasing Foundation giving. Rotary Direct is a way to give a modest amount automatically every month via a bank or credit card account. Increasing Foundation giving will allow the district to fully fund Rotary projects in the years to come.
3. Review the grant process to better manage them, perhaps via online.
4. All clubs should have ten goals for the year.

There's much to be done, Rotarians, so let's get out there and share the heavy lifting!

NOVEMBER - ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

The Foundation is the charitable arm of Rotary International and provides grants for the projects that Rotary supports around the world. The primary mission of the Rotary Foundation is the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. Disease prevention is the #1 line item in the Foundation budget. We automatically think of polio, but Rotary is also tackling other killer diseases like malaria and dengue fever. In 2018, the Foundation awarded total global grants of \$86,677,399. Since its inception, the Foundation has provided grants of over \$4 billion. These dollars come from individual contributions from Rotarians around the world, like you.

To give to the Foundation, please email Gary Hess at ghessx@gmail.com to find out about the various options.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Nov 10	Fellowship Meet Up – Up on the Roof of the Chestnut St Parking Garage
Nov 12	The Power of Connection with Diverse Communities -RI Session
Nov 21	Community Warehouse Project
Dec 12	Salvation Army Bell Ringing

BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, **Michelle Venema**; President Elect, **Steve Brown**; Vice President, **Phil McFadden**; Treasurer, **Jack Ellis**; Secretary, **Sue Casso Rogers**; Sgt at Arms, **Bob Rogers**; Immediate Past President, **Matt Holliday**

Directors-at-Large: **Ebbie Alfree, Melissa Baxter, Phil McFadden, Carol Hanson, Diana Liberi, Rob Malone, Rich Murray, Christine Scott, Glen Sweet**

Kevin Katarynick, District Governor
Cynthia Rugart, Assistant Governor

Charles Streitwieser, P. D.G. '13-14 District 7450

Dwight Leeper, P.D.G. '12-13. District 7510

Robert Poole, P.D.G. '80-'81 District 7450

Lynmar Brock, Past Director of RI, P.D.G. '77-78

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Chair, **Faith Woodward**, 610-918-3432; Votary@westchesterrotary.us Web support: **Judi Bell** and **Howard Sundwall**.
Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us

Committee: **Pat Barron, Brian Fahey, Gary Hess, Michael Lewis, Fran Luft, Danielle Mortimer, Cathy Palmquist, Kyle Rheiner, Winnie Stroup, Jill Stoltzfus**